Effective date: August 5th, 2019 Revised August 30, 2019

**POLICY** 

Cancels: POL 10.2.5.T Issuing Probationary Licenses

See also: PRO 10.2.5; RCW 43.216; 110-300; 110-305 Approved by:

### POL 10.2.5 ISSUING CHILD CARE PROBATIONARY LICENSES

This policy applies to DCYF issuing child care probationary licenses.

- 1. Probationary Licenses May Be Issued Under The Following Conditions:
  - Current noncompliance with licensing rules 110-300, 110-305
  - Settlement Agreement (Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) approval)
  - Negligent or intentional non-compliance with licensing rules
  - A history of non-compliance with licensing rules
  - Fire safety inspection or health and sanitation inspection report that failed to gain approval
  - Use of unauthorized space for child care
  - Inadequate supervision of children
  - Understaffing for the number of children in care
  - Noncompliance with requirements addressing children's health, proper nutrition, discipline, emergency medical plan, sanitation or personal hygiene practices
  - Any other factors relevant to the specific situation and consistent with the intent or purpose of chapter 43.216 RCW
  - In addition to or in lieu of civil penalties
- 2. Probationary Licenses May Be Issued To Early Learning Providers With Initial, Non-Expiring or Other Licenses

The Senior Child Care Administrator must approve all probationary licenses that occur during a provider's initial license period.

- 3. Probationary Licenses Must Not Be Issued When Imminent Danger or Risk To Children Is Present
- 4. DCYF Must Give Early Learning Providers At Least One Technical Assistance Referral Prior To Issuing A Probationary License

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Early Learning Provider's failure to respond to or refusal of technical assistance, in writing, within 15 business days may result in a probationary license.

Failure to correct the areas of noncompliance identified in technical assistance plan after 60 days may result in a probationary license.

Providers that follow technical assistance and come into compliance after sixty days will not receive a probationary license.

### 5. DCYF And Early Learning Provider Must Mutually Agree To Probationary License

Before a probationary license may be issued, DCYF and early learning provider must mutually agree to terms. The agreement may include but is not limited to:

- Placement of "No Referral" status
- Restriction of new enrollments for facility or specific rooms
- Specific training for early learning provider or staff
- Limits on age range or capacity during the probation.

# 6. Early Learning Provider Who Refuses A Probationary License Does Not Have A Right To Administrative Hearing

The early learning provider who does not agree with the placement on probationary status does not have a right to an administrative hearing.

## 7. Early Learning Provider Refusal of Probationary License May Lead To Further Enforcement Action

If an early learning provider refuses a probationary license, DCYF may suspend, revoke, or modify the license.

#### 8. Probationary Licenses Must Not Exceed Two Six Month-Periods

Probationary licenses may be issued for up to six months and may be extended for an additional six months.

## 9. DCYF May Terminate the Probationary License At Any Time in the Event of Imminent Danger or Risk to Children